

Muirhead & Black's elevator at Fort William was destroyed by fire on November 11th. The total loss will go over \$20,000, with \$10,000 insurance.

An International Exhibition of Tools used in various trades will be held at the "Palais van Volksvlijt," Amsterdam, Holland, from August 15th to September 15th, 1907.

C. E. Shedrick, manufacturer of electrical measuring instruments, heating devices and scientific supplies, of Sherbrooke, Que., has organized an incorporated company of the name of Shedrick, Rigby, Limited, with headquarters at 157 Craig Street, Montreal. The business will be conducted on a much larger scale than heretofore.

The export duty on coal by the British Government has been abolished, the abolition of the duty taking effect on October 31st. On November 1st hundreds of British steamers sailed for foreign parts, loaded with English coal. Some of these were destined for Canada, so that we may now expect to see Welsh coal laid down in surprisingly large quantities in Canada. Naturally the abolition of the heavy export duty demanded by the British Government has prevented the export of coal in any considerable quantities.

A new metal, called monel, which is expected to cause something of a revolution in the industrial world, is being produced at the works of the Canadian Copper Company at Sudbury. It is cheaper than nickel and it is claimed that it possesses all the qualities of the former. Monel is a compound of copper, nickel, iron, and one or two other minerals which are found in the district, and its importance lies in the fact that it is much cheaper than nickel, it is less liable to rust and will serve all the purposes for which nickel is at present used. The new metal is said to be of equal ductile strength with nickel and to possess all its other essential qualities, but it is not yet claimed that it will serve the purpose of nickel steel used for armor plate.

At a recent meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade the following resolution was passed re Technical Education:—"The Dominion Government appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education, to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industries." The board accepted the report in full, and a copy will be forwarded to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. One clause in the report reads: "Providence has endowed us with resources no other nation possesses. Shall it be said of us that we cannot develop our inheritance for want of expert artisans. And yet it must be confessed we are at present in such a position."

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE

Radio-Telegraphy is the new term given to wireless telegraphy by the International Convention.

The Thorold Board of Trade is considering the question of having a private telephone system for the town.

Marconi's latest scheme is the building of a station at Cottam, Italy. The station will be a very powerful one for communication with Argentina. It will be ready for trial in about a month.

The city of Windsor has renewed the franchise of the Bell Telephone Company for five years. The company has agreed to give the city six free telephones, and to pay \$750 per year for the five years.

The Bell Telephone Company are rapidly extending their long-distance system throughout the West, and already Manitoba is thoroughly covered. Next year Battleford will be connected with Winnipeg, and by 1908 Edmonton, Calgary, and Macleod will be on the wire.

MARINE NEWS.

The biggest boat ever built in Toronto, a car ferry for the Grand Trunk Railway Company, is to be launched at the works of the Canadian Shipbuilding Company.

Plans are under way for the construction of a \$4,000,000 lock on the United States side of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal. It is proposed to build a lock 1,350'-0" long, 75 to 80'-0" wide, and 20'-0" deep; to be built just north of the present lock.

The Dominion Government will erect a lighthouse at the entrance to Prince Rupert, the Grand Trunk Pacific terminus on the British Columbia coast, to warn navigators of the presence of a dangerous reef in what looks like the safest of waters.

J. M. Ross, of Sydney, N.S., who is interested in the Dominion Iron and Steel Co., says that the company are having two steamers built in the Old Country, for the purpose of carrying their products from Sydney to Port Arthur, for shipment to the Canadian West.

RAILWAY NOTES.

It has been definitely decided to make Prince Rupert the western terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

The Intercolonial Railway shows a surplus of \$56,899 upon its operation for the fiscal year up to July 1st.

The net profits of the Guelph, Ont., street railway for the past fiscal year were \$7,487. The line is municipally owned.

The C.P.R. has secured control of the Georgian Bay and Seaboard Railway, and also of the Lucknow Railway Company.

The earnings of the Toronto Railway Company for the first ten months of the year are \$2,539,623, an increase of \$288,865, or 12 per cent.

The Grand Trunk Pacific has decided upon the Yellow Head Pass as the one which it is to use to reach the Pacific Coast. This has been done after careful surveys. The Government will be asked to approve this pass, which will give a grade through the Rocky Mountains of about four-tenths of one per cent.

The first of the Canadian Northern Trains to make the journey between Parry Sound and Toronto, reached here on November 11th. President William Mackenzie, third vice-president, D. B. Hanna, Frederic Nicholls, Noel Marshall, A. W. Smith, Superintendent F. M. Spaidal, and other officials of the road accompanied the train.

The C.P.R. will apply at the next session of Parliament for power to build a line west from Weyburn, Sask., on the Soo line, a distance of 100 miles. This company has also given notice of an application for permission to construct, on the proposed Moose Jaw northerly extension, a junction with the terminus of the Lacombe branch of the Calgary and Edmonton railway.

MINING MATTERS.

Gold assaying \$45 to the ton has been found at Birling, on the C.N.R., five miles west of North Battleford.

The shaft of the silver Queen is now down 140 feet, and the showing at this level is 18 inches of high-grade ore.

A very rich vein, four inches wide, has been discovered on the Gilpin property, and is principally native silver.

It is stated that the Port Arthur Silver District is similar in geological formation to Cobalt, and that it will become a big silver camp.

It is stated that William Everett, of the Michigan 'Soo,' has sold to the Timmons Mining Syndicate, of Cobalt, a tract of twenty acres, practically undeveloped, for \$70,000.

Demand for shares in Cobalt mines is now appearing in London and Paris. If Cobalt shares come to be quoted in European centres it will create a new activity in the demand.

Gold placer diggings have been discovered just east of Maidstone, Sask. A number of claims have already been staked, and it is thought that big companies will be formed to operate the properties.